MAKE YOUR BUSINESS GROW.
ADVERTISE IN
DAWN INDUSTRY SUPPLEMENTS
Call Manager Supplements in
Karachi Lahore or Islamabad
on UAN: 111-444-777

DAWN

RAISE YOUR COMPANY'S PROFILE.
ADVERTISE IN
DAWN COUNTRY SUPPLEMENTS
Call Manager Supplements in
Karachi Lahore or Islamabad
on UAN: 111-444-777

Mediators propose deal to get Hamas fighters out of Rafah

• The Egyptian proposal envisages 'safe passage' for the fighters still in Gaza's 'Israeli zone' • Israeli forces kill teenager in occupied West Bank

CAIRO: Hamas fighters holed up in the Israeli-held Rafah area of Gaza would surrender their arms in exchange for passage to other areas of the enclave under a proposal to resolve an issue seen as a risk to the month-old truce, according to sources familiar with the talks.

Since the US-brokered ceasefire took effect in Gaza on Oct 10, the Rafah area has been the scene of two attacks on Israeli forces. Hamas has denied responsibility.

Egyptian mediators have proposed that, in exchange for safe passage, fighters still in Rafah surrender their arms to Egypt and give "details of tunnels" there so they can be destroyed, an Egyptian security official said.

Israel and Hamas have yet to accept mediators' proposals, the sources said. They confirmed that talks on the issue were underway.

The Israeli prime minister's office did not immediately respond to a request for comment on the accounts; Hazem Qassem, a Hamas spokesperson in Gaza, declined to comment.

The attacks in Rafah left three Israeli soldiers dead. Subsequent Israeli strikes killed an unspecified number of Palestinians.

'Unaware' of ceasefire

The sources said the Hamas fighters in Rafah, which the group's armed wing has said have been out of contact since March, might be unaware that a ceasefire was in place.

The ceasefire is the first part of President Donald Trump's plan to end the Gaza conflict.

Hamas has released the last 20 living Israeli prisoners seized in the Oct 7, 2023, raid in exchange for nearly 2,000 Palestinian prisoners; Israeli troops have withdrawn from western areas of Gaza, where Hamas remains in control.

Details of the next phase of Trump's plan, which requires Hamas to disarm and give up control of Gaza, have yet to be agreed. The plan foresees Gaza being governed by a technocratic Palestinian committee with international supervision, and the deployment of an international force.

Since the ceasefire, Hamas has handed over the bodies of 22 of 28 deceased prisoners. Hamas has said the devastation in Gaza has made locating the bodies difficult. Israel has released to Gaza the bodies of 285 Palestinians.

Israeli forces kill teenager

The Palestinian health ministry said on Thursday that Israeli troops shot dead a teenager in the occupied West Bank.

The Ramallah-based ministry identified the 15-year-old as Murad Saifin, who had been killed late on Wednesday.

The ministry said the incident took place in the town of Al Yamun, west of Jenin.

Late on Wednesday the Israeli military said its troops had killed a militant in the area of Al Yamun.

In a separate incident, the Palestinian Authority reported the death of an elderly woman from a heart attack when Israeli forces raided her home on Thursday.

The PA's media office identified the woman as Haniya Hanoun, and said she was pushed around by soldiers who had come to arrest her grandson in their home near Ramallah.

Violence in the West Bank, which Israel has occupied since 1967, has soared since the conflict in Gaza broke out in Oct 2023.

One thousand Palestinians have been killed in the occupied territory by Israeli forces or settlers over the last two years.

During the same period, 43 Israelis have been killed in occupied West Bank.—Agencies

TRAVELLERS look at TV screens informing them about cancellations and delayed flights at Atlanta International Airport.—Reuters

Travel chaos looms in US amid govt shutdown

NEW YORK: Airlines scrambled on Thursday to rejig schedules and fielding a flood of customer queries after the US ordered flight cuts at some of the nation's busiest airports, the latest travel disruption from the prolonged government shutdown.

Transportation Secretary Sean Duffy said on Wednesday he would order steep cuts, citing air traffic control safety risks from the government shutdown.

The shutdown, now the longest in US history, has forced some 13,000 air traffic controllers and 50,000 security screeners to work without pay, raising fear of travel disruptions during the upcoming Thanksgiving holiday.

Staffing shortages have already caused tens of thousands of flight delays nationwide, with airlines estimating that 3.2 million travellers have been affected.

Industry sources said the first round of reductions, which cuts about four per cent of scheduled flights, will take effect as soon as Friday. The cuts will rise to five per cent on Saturday, six on Sunday, and reach as much as 10pc next week if the shutdown persists.

Delta Air Lines said on Thursday it would begin reducing flights from Friday to comply with the directive, but expects to operate the vast majority of its schedule as planned, including all long-haul international services.

Holiday travel

Unless the government reopens, the drastic plan threatens to throw holiday plans into chaos for millions of Americans travelling for Thanksgiving, marking one of the most visible ripple effects yet from the record-long government shutdown.

"They (the airlines might) have some flexibility on prices, but if this shutdown goes on much longer, that should have a negative effect overall," said David Morrison, a market analyst at Trade Nation, UK.

Airlines including United Airlines, American Airlines and Southwest were inundated with passenger queries on social media platforms like *X*, as flyers sought clarity on travel plans.

"Please, you and your fellow airlines — for Thanksgiving week — issue all cancellations at least a week in advance," one *X* user urged in response to United's post outlining flight reductions.

"Don't make people wait to find out if they can fly home for the holiday."

The reduction move aims to ease pressure on controllers, with the Federal Aviation Authority short about 3,500 staff and many working mandatory overtime and six-day weeks even before the shutdown.

"This is a fluid situation, but we believe the impact is more manageable than headlines imply," Tom Fitzgerald, an aviation analyst, said.—Reuters

Trump raises Pakistan-India 'jet-stakes' to eight

Dawn Report

FLORIDA: Continuing to comment on the brief military conflict between Pakistan and India earlier this year, US President Donald Trump has now stated that eight planes were "essentially" shot down.

"In eight months I ended eight wars, including Kosovo and Serbia, the Congo and Rwanda … Pakistan and India," he said during a speech at the American Business Forum in Miami late on Wednesday.

"I was in the midst of a trade deal with both of them. And then I read on the front page of a certain newspaper — I won't mention the newspaper because it's usually fake news — but I heard they are going to war. Eight planes, seven planes were shot down — an eighth was really badly wounded [sic]. But eight planes were shot down essentially," he said.

He reiterated his previous claims that he threatened not to make trade deals unless the two countries agreed to peace.

"I'm not trading with you; we are not making any deals with you if you are at war with each other," he said.

"A day later, I get a call, 'We made peace'. They stopped. I said, 'Thank you, let's trade'. Isn't that great? Tariffs did that. Without tariffs that would have never happened."

The US president has previously stated on several occasions that five to seven planes were shot down during the May conflict between the two countries.

He had also reiterated his praise for PM Shehbaz Sharif and COAS Field Marshal Asim Munir.

Just last month, he had said that seven "brand-new, beautiful planes were shot down" during the brief military escalation between Pakistan and India.

India has differed with Trump's claims that the ceasefire between the two countries resulted from his intervention and his threats to sever trade talks.

UN agency works out six-month flood response strategy

By Amin Ahmed

ISLAMABAD: The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN-OCHA) has worked out a response strategy to complement the Pakistan government's early recovery efforts in the wake of this year's monsoon floods, by focusing on both humanitarian and early recovery activities in 14 prioritised districts of Punjab, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Gilgit-Baltistan.

A new UN-OCHA report released on Thursday says the strategy, part of a broader support plan consolidated by the agency, will run through six months, ending in April next year, with activities based on findings from the Rapid Need Assessment (RNA).

The findings of the RNA were instrumental in identifying response and coverage gaps, and formed the basis for the district prioritisation of the current Support Plan for Relief and Early Recovery.

Following the assessment, the Punjab districts of Muzaffargarh, Multan, Khanewal, Jhang, and Bahawalpur were identified as high priority, while Bahawalnagar, Hafizabad, Okara, and Rahim Yar Khan were categorised as medium priority. Based on earlier but separate assessments in KP, the districts of Buner, Shangla, and Swat were prioritised, while in GB, Diamer and Ghizer were identified for this purpose.

Support plan

The support plan identifies the sector's needs articulated in the RNA and the affected communities. It will be implemented through close coordination with the federal, provincial, and district governments.

As part of the support plan, $7.9 million in multipurpose cash assistance (MPC) will be distributed to support 1.2 million people, enabling vulnerable communities to meet their diverse needs in a flexible and dignified manner.

The MPC has been integrated across key sectors such as food security, agriculture, livelihoods, WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) project, shelter, and protection — providing both sector-specific and standalone support.

In an important sector like food security and livelihood, the response will adopt a dual-track approach. It will address immediate food and livelihood needs while laying the groundwork for early recovery and climate resilience.

The total funding requirement of the food security, agriculture and livelihoods sector to implement the above activities is $42.6m, of which $11.8m is required to provide relief and lifesaving assistance and $30.8m is required for early recovery.

World leaders convene in Brazil to address climate crisis

• Leaders from China, US, India and Russia are absent from the gathering
• UN chief says corporate interests are leading the world to ruin

BELEM: UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres tore into nations for their failure to limit warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius, delivering a blistering critique as Brazil hosted world leaders for a summit ahead of the COP30 climate conference.

Speaking at a high-level summit, Mr Guterres said that too many political leaders had become "captive" to fossil fuel interests, while companies continued to profit from environmental destruction.

"Too many corporations are making record profits from climate devastation, with billions spent on lobbying, deceiving the public and obstructing progress," he said. "We can choose to lead — or be led to ruin."

The summit opens at a stark moment. Scientists now expect the world to cross the 1.5C warming limit as early as 2030, a threshold long described as a line between severe climate disruption and irreversible harm. Yet governments still spend more than $1tn a year subsidising fossil fuels.

Outside the venue, indigenous communities sang and marched, urging delegates to protect the Amazon and other critical forests. A larger flotilla of indigenous leaders travelling down Amazon river routes was delayed and is expected to arrive next week.

Around 150 heads of state, regional leaders and international organisations are addressing the gathering on Thursday and Friday. But the leaders of the US, China, India and Russia — four of the world's top polluting countries— are notably absent.

Only the European Union president is scheduled to attend, prompting some observers to suggest the summit may allow more candid exchanges in their absence.

Brazilian president Luiz In cio Lula da Silva, the summit host, used the session to call for a "just transition" away from fossil fuels and the restoration of damaged ecosystems.

"We need a roadmap to undo deforestation, overcome fossil fuels and mobilise the resources needed for those aims," he said.

Lula also warned that extremist political movements were undermining climate action for electoral advantage, trapping societies in outdated economic systems that fuel inequality and environmental collapse.

Calls for shared responsibility and financial fairness were echoed throughout the summit.

China's vice premier, Ding Xuexiang, urged states to "strengthen solidarity" and maintain commitment to multilateral climate cooperation, while Britain's Prince William described the moment as "pivotal in human history", demanding courage and cooperation to safeguard the planet.

Chile's president, Gabriel Boric, criticised the resurgence of climate denial, referencing a recent false claim by the US president at the UN that contradicted scientific consensus.

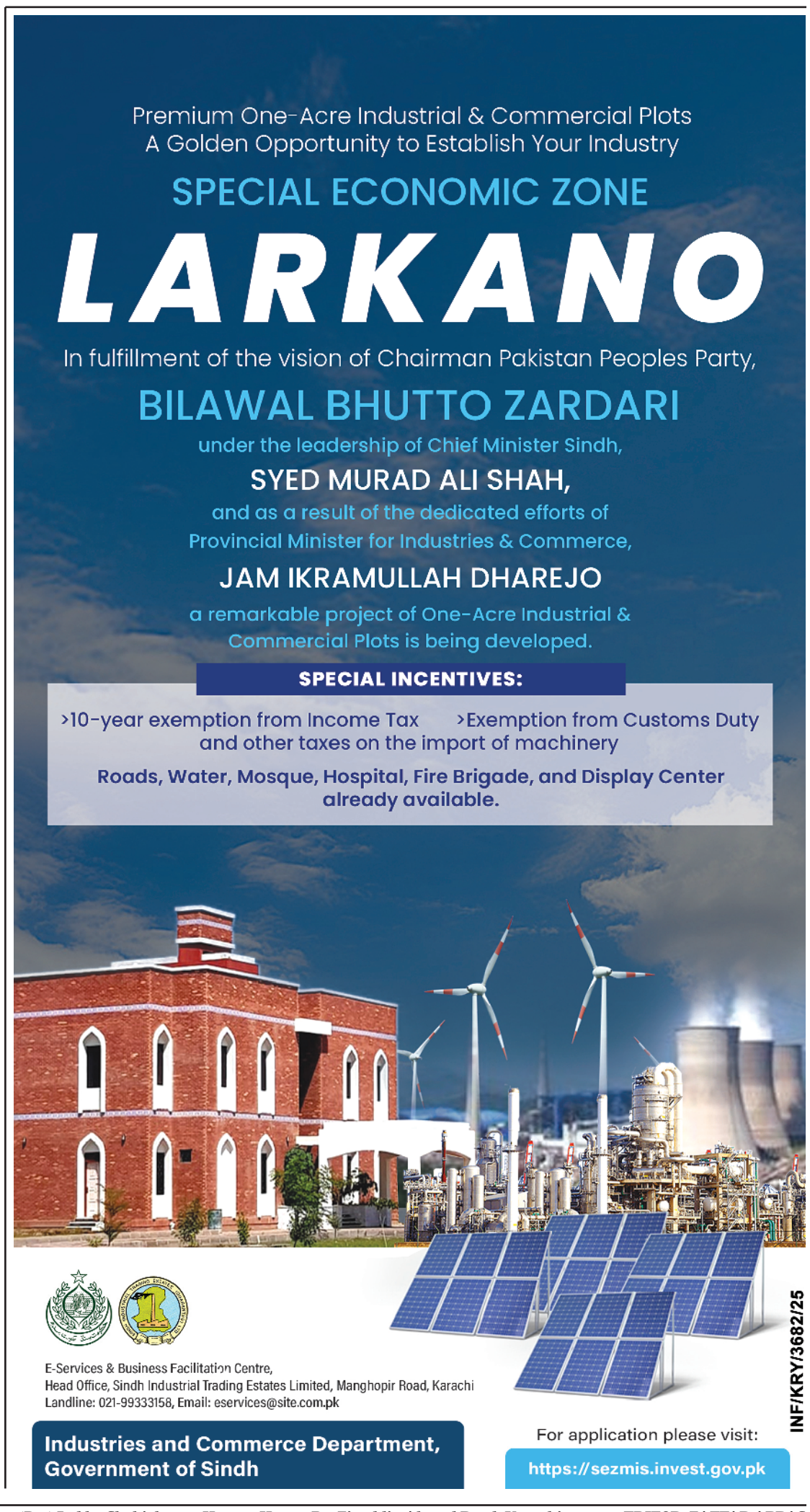
'Second or third hottest year on record'

The summit coincided with a grim assessment from the UN's weather and climate agency, warning that this year will likely be the second-or third-hottest ever recorded — part of more than a decade of extraordinary heat. Concentrations of greenhouse gases continue to hit record highs, "locking in" future warming.

Together, the developments "mean that it will be virtually impossible to limit global warming to 1.5C in the next few years without temporarily overshooting the Paris Agreement target", WMO chief Celeste Saulo told leaders in Belem in northern Brazil.

The 2015 Paris climate accords aimed to limit global warming to well below two degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels -- and to 1.5C if possible.

Mr Guterres, on the other hand, underscored the urgency. Every year above the 1.5C threshold, he warned, would deepen inequality, damage economies and lead to irreversible losses in ecosystems. .—Agencies


Premium One-Acre Industrial & Commercial Plots
A Golden Opportunity to Establish Your Industry
SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE
LARKANO
In fulfillment of the vision of Chairman Pakistan Peoples Party,
BILAWAL BHUTTO ZARDARI
under the leadership of Chief Minister Sindh,
SYED MURAD ALI SHAH,
and as a result of the dedicated efforts of
Provincial Minister for Industries & Commerce,
JAM IKRAMULLAH DHAREJO
a remarkable project of One-Acre Industrial & Commercial Plots is being developed.
SPECIAL INCENTIVES:
>10-year exemption from Income Tax
>Exemption from Customs Duty and other taxes on the import of machinery
Roads, Water, Mosque, Hospital, Fire Brigade, and Display Center already available.
E-Services & Business Facilitation Centre,
Head Office, Sindh Industrial Trading Estates Limited, Manghopir Road, Karachi
Landline: 021-99333158, Email: eservices@site.com.pk
Industries and Commerce Department, Government of Sindh
For application please visit:
https://sezmis.invest.gov.pk
INF/KRY/3682/25

Printed at Pakistan Herald Publications (Pvt) Ltd by Khalil Mohsin and published for Pakistan Herald Publications (Pvt) Ltd by Shahjahan at Haroon House, Dr. Ziauddin Ahmed Road, Karachi. EDITOR: ZAFFAR ABBAS